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Moldova, Republic of

Grain and Feed

Higher MY02/03 Wheat Exports

2002

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Report Highlights:

Moldova expects an increase in MY02/03 wheat exports due to higher production and improved export infrastructure. Detailed trade data for MY01/02 wheat, barley and corn exports is part of this report.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Sofia [BU1], MD

Table #1. MY2001/2002 Moldova Grain Exports by country in MT

Trade Data

Moldova enjoyed very good grain production in MY2001/2002. Production of all major grain crops, wheat, barley and corn was high, following two dry years (see report MD#2001). As a result, the country increased grain exports. The usual export markets were Ukraine and Romania. Moldova is a land locked country and is using Romanian and Ukrainian Black Sea ports. In addition, major international grain traders are located in these two neighboring countries and they often supplement export shipments with Moldovan grains. For this reason, it is assumed that Moldovan grain is often registered as Ukrainian and Romanian grain exports. Two other factors contributing to higher exports were low domestic production costs, about \$40/MT on average; and improved capacity of exit ports, Odessa and Constantza.

Moldova, unlike other countries in the region, is exporting grains to the United States, and wheat exports alone in MY01/02 reached 57,000 MT. Total grain exports (wheat, barley and corn) to the United States in MY01/02 were 85,000 MT. These exports are reportedly due to the entry of a new grain firm, a U.S.- based grain and oilseed trader, in Moldova at the end of CY2000.

The table attached below contains export trade data by export destinations for CY2001 and for the first four months of CY2002. Due to very bad crops in MY2000/01, no grains were exported in the first six months of CY2001. Therefore, export trade data for CY2001 represents grain exports which took place in the second six months of the year or in MY01/02. These exports continued at a slower pace in CY2002 and were practically stopped after April 2002 due to depleted exportable stocks. Therefore, the trade data for MY01/02 is based on the summary of the CY2001 data and January-April '02 export figures. Final MY01/02 grain exports are as follows: wheat, 160,000 MT; barley, 95,000 MT and corn, 71,000 MT.

Prospects for MY02/03 are for higher-than-MY01/02 grain exports. Production is forecast to be high with improved quality. No changes are expected in local consumption and average production costs (ref MD#2001). At the same time, local grain traders are better established and plan more intensive use of Black Sea ports. The largest local grain exporter has already built a new grain elevator on the Black Sea near Odessa to facilitate exports. Therefore, Moldovan wheat exports alone are forecast to reach 250,000 MT in MY02/03.

Table #1. MY2001/2002 Moldova Grain Exports by country in MT

Exports of grains in CY2001, MT				
	Wheat	Barley	Corn	Total
USA	25,279	20,521	0	45,800
Belarus	1,053	249	8,646	9,948
Ukraine	32,213	25,276	12	57,589
Cyprus	0	3,696	0	3,696
Romania	0	6,412	12,628	19,040
Hungary	0	17,593	126	17,719
Estonia	0	0	1,990	1,990
Russia	0	0	2,193	2,193
Total	62,766	90,702	28,022	181,490
Exports of grains in January-April 2002, MT				
	Wheat	Barley	Corn	
France	6,829	0	0	6,829
Germany	6,361	1,094	0	7,455
United Kingdom	3,641	175	0	3,816
USA	31,259	617	7,408	39,284
Hungary	23,706	0	0	23,706
Ukraine	23,595	1,078	8,263	32,936
Romania	0	0	1,654	1,654
Virgin Islands	0	0	3,588	3,588
Belarus	0	0	15,772	15,772
Total	97,143	3,775	42,847	143,765
Total MY01/02	159,909	94,477	70,869	325,255